

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 5 and 9-12 are now pending in the present application. Claims 1-4, 6, 7-8, and 13-15 have been cancelled in the present amendment, Claims 16-20 were previously cancelled by applicants, and Claims 21-55 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. For the record, applicants affirmatively cancel Claims 21-55 hereinabove. Claims 5, 9, 10, and 11, originally filed as dependent claims, have been rewritten in independent form, each rewritten claim generally including elements of the base and intervening claims.

Claims Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner has indicated that the “element” of the magnetic field generator coupled with the prime mover is vague. In Claim 13, a plurality of receiver coils lacks antecedent basis.

Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 13-25 without prejudice, and thus, the rejection of these claims is now moot. Claims 5, 9, 10, 11 have been amended, and the element to which the Examiner has objected (i.e., the element coupled with the prime mover) is no longer recited in the claims. Claim 12 depends from Claim 11, which has been amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 5 and 9-12 as being indefinite should be withdrawn.

Claims Rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103, as being obvious in view of the combination of various references. Applicants have cancelled Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 13-15, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 5 and 9-12 would be allowed if rewritten both to overcome the indefiniteness rejection, and in independent form, including the elements of the base and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended Claims 5, 9, 10 and 11 in the manner indicated by the Examiner. Claim 12, already dependent upon Claim 11, required no amendment.

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In consideration of the preceding amendment and remarks, it will be apparent that all claims in this application are patentable. The Examiner is therefore requested to pass this application to Issue without delay. In the event that any questions remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid addressed to: Director of Patents and Trademarks, Arlington, VA 22202, on March 28, 2003.

Date: March 28, 2003

RMA/MCK:

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